

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1413

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 26TH JULY, 2022

COLD STORAGE IN RURAL AREAS

1413. DR. TALARI RANGAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government plans to build cold storage in rural areas particularly in Andhra Pradesh to provide storage facilities to farmers to store perishable food grains, fruits, fish and vegetables to enable them to get remunerative prices and to protect them from selling their goods at a lesser price during harvesting season itself; and
- (b) if so, the details of the funds allocated to the State of Andhra Pradesh for the same, district and scheme-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) : Government is implementing various schemes under which financial assistance is available for various horticulture activities including setting up of cold storage in rural areas to enable farmers to get remunerative prices and to protect them from selling their produce at a lesser price in the country including Andhra Pradesh.

Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) under which financial assistance is provided for various horticulture activities including setting up of cold storages in rural areas. The component is demand/entrepreneur driven for which Government assistance in the form of credit linked back ended subsidy is available at the rate of 35% of the project cost in general areas and 50% of the project cost in hilly and scheduled areas.

Besides, National Horticulture Board (NHB) is implementing a scheme namely "Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Expansion /Modernization of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Products". Under the scheme, credit linked back-ended subsidy at the rate of 35% of the capital cost of the project in general areas and 50% in case of North East, hilly & scheduled areas for construction/expansion/modernization of cold storage and Controlled Atmosphere (CA) storage of capacity above 5000 MT and up to 10000 MT is available. In case of North East region, the units with capacity above 1000 MT are also eligible for assistance.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MOFPI) is implementing a Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure as one of the component of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana with the objective of reducing post-harvest losses of horticulture and non-horticulture produce and providing remunerative price to farmers for their produce. Under the scheme, Ministry provides financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid at the rate of 35% for general areas and 50% for North East and Himalayan States, ITDP areas and Islands for storage and transport infrastructure and at the rate of 50% and 75% respectively for value addition and processing infrastructure subject to a maximum grant-in-aid of Rs. 10 crore per project for setting up integrated cold chain projects including irradiation facility. Standalone cold storages are not covered under the Scheme.

Further, to strengthen agriculture infrastructure in the country, Government has launched Agriculture Infrastructure Funds (AIF) of Rs. 1.00 lakh crore. Under AIF, there is provision for collateral free term loan upto Rs. 2.00 crore and interest subvention of 3% on the term loan availed for creation of post harvest infrastructure including establishment of cold storages.

(b) : Under MIDH scheme, the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare allocates funds to State Horticulture Mission (SHM). The SHM in turn allocate funds to the Districts based upon the approved Annual Action Plan. District level details of the funds allocated, released and utilized are maintained at State level.

As informed by State Government, there is only MIDH Scheme in which Cold Storages are being assisted.

For the year 2022-23, Rs. 166.66 crore has been allocated to Andhra Pradesh for various horticulture activities including setting up of cold storage.
